

§ 4288.1

4288.25 Succession and control of facilities and production.
4288.26 Fiscal Year 2009 and Fiscal Year 2010 applications.
4288.27–4288.100 [Reserved]

Subpart B—Advanced Biofuel Payment Program

GENERAL PROVISIONS

4288.101 Purpose and scope.
4288.102 Definitions.
4288.103 Review or appeal rights.
4288.104 Compliance with other laws and regulations.
4288.105 Oversight and monitoring.
4288.106 Forms, regulations, and instructions.
4288.107 Exception authority.
4288.108–4288.109 [Reserved]

ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS

4288.110 Applicant eligibility.
4288.111 Biofuel eligibility.
4288.112 Eligibility notifications.
4288.113 Payment record requirements.
4288.114–4288.119 [Reserved]

ENROLLMENT PROVISIONS

4288.120 Enrollment.
4288.121 Contract.
4288.122–4288.129 [Reserved]

PAYMENT PROVISIONS

4288.130 Payment applications.
4288.131 Payment provisions.
4288.132 Payment adjustments.
4288.133 Payment liability.
4288.134 Refunds and interest payments.
4288.135 Unauthorized payments and offsets.
4288.136 Remedies.
4288.137 Succession and loss of control of advanced biofuel facilities and production.
4288.138–4288.189 [Reserved]

FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPLICATIONS

4288.190 Fiscal Year 2010 applications.
4288.191–4288.200 [Reserved]

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Subpart A—Repowering Assistance Payments to Eligible Biorefineries

§ 4288.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of this program is to provide financial incentives to biorefineries in existence on June 18, 2008, the date of the enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of

7 CFR Ch. XLII (1–15 Edition)

2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill) (Pub. L. 110–246), to replace the use of fossil fuels used to produce heat or power at their facilities by installing new systems that use renewable biomass, or to produce new energy from renewable biomass.

(b) *Scope.* The Agency may make payments under this program to any biorefinery that meets the requirements of the program up to the limits established for the program. Based on our research and survey of medium-sized project costs, the Agency has determined that the dollar amount identified will provide adequate incentive for biorefineries to apply.

(1) The Agency will determine the amount of payments to be made to a biorefinery taking into consideration the percentage reduction in fossil fuel used by the biorefinery (including the quantity of fossil fuels a renewable biomass system is replacing), and the cost and cost-effectiveness of the renewable biomass system.

(2) The Agency will determine who receives payment under this program based on the percentage reduction in fossil fuel used by the biorefinery that will result from the installation of the renewable biomass system; the cost and cost-effectiveness of the renewable biomass system; and other scoring criteria identified in § 4288.21. The above criteria will be used to determine priority for awards of 50 percent of total eligible project costs, up to the maximum award applicable for the fiscal year.

§ 4288.2 Definitions.

The definitions set forth in this section are applicable for all purposes of program administration under this subpart.

Agency. The USDA Rural Development, Rural Business-Cooperative Service or its successor organization.

Application period. The time period announced by the Agency during which the Agency will accept applications.

Base energy use. The amount of documented fossil fuel energy use over an extended operating period.

(1) The extended operating period must be at least 24 months of recorded usage, and requires metered utility records for electric energy, natural gas